

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 AGR-20 /129 W

----- 023291

R 070948Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5861

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10065

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS.

SUBJECT: DEP VICE MIN TOGO VISIT TO ROK

1. IN BRIEF AIRPORT ENCOUNTER ON OCCASION OF PRIMIN TANAKA'S RETURN TO JAPAN, DEP VICE MIN TOGO TOLD CHARGE THAT HE HAD RECENTLY VISITED ROK TO STUDY ECONOMIC SITUATION IN PREPARATION FOR BILATERAL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN TOKYO SEPT 7-8. ASIDE FROM CALLS ON SELECTED ROK OFFICIALS, HE VISITED DMZ AND INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AT POHANG.

2. FONOFF NORTHEAST ASIA DIV DEP HEAD ASAKAI SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED THIS INFORMATION TO EMBOFF. HE NOTED THAT BILATERAL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS WHICH ARE DEVOTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION WILL AGAIN INVOLVE FROM EACH SIDE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FINANCE, TRADE, AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARDS. DEP PRIMIN TAE WON SON WILL CHAIR KOREAN SIDE AND FONMIN OHIRA WILL CHAIR GOJ SIDE.

3. FYI. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION AS TO WHY TOGO RATHER THAN TSURUMI WAS HANDLING PREPARATIONS FOR KOREAN MINISTERIAL, ASAKAI EXPLAINED THAT FONOFF CORRIDOR TALK PUT IT DOWN TO BALANCING ACT. HE POINTED OUT
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TSURUMI HAD HANDLED MEETING LAST YEAR AND MORE RECENTLY

HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONCOM AND ACCOMPANIED PRIMIN
TANAKA TO WASHINGTON AS WELL. ASSIGNMENT OF KOREAN
MINISTERIAL ON THIS OCCASION TO TOGO WAS APPARENTLY
CALCULATED TO GIVE HIM MAJOR PROJECT AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY
TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH SUBJECT (KOREAN AFFAIRS) WITH
WHICH HE HAS NOT DEALT IN RECENT PAST.

4. ASAKAI ALSO NOTED THAT HIS IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR, SEO,
IS CURRENTLY IN ROK FOR FAMILIARIZATION TOUR HAVING ONLY
RECENTLY BECOME HEAD OF NORTHEAST ASIAN DIV.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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